Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 OMB-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 ACDA-12 OES-07 AF-10 NEA-10 /117 W

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O R 031840Z NOV 77 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9986

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UK

SUBJECT: QUEEN'S SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT NOV. 3

SUMMARY: THE QUEEN'S SPEECH ON THE OPENING OF PARLIA-MENT CONTAINED FEW SURPRISES AS A STATEMENT OF THE CALLAGHAN GOVERNMENT'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. THE SPEECH EMPHASIZED THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO DEVOLUTION FOR SCOTLAND AND WALES AND FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. IT LIKEWISE RESTATED SUPPORT FOR A DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND CONTINUED UNCLASSIFIED

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COOPERATION WITH THE IRISH REPUBLIC TOWARD THE OBJECTIVE OF LASTING PEACE IN THE PROVINCE. ON ECONOMIC ISSUES, A RETURN TO FULL EMPLOYMENT, SUSTAINED GROWTH AND REDUCED LEVELS OF INFLATION WERE ALSO EMPHASIZED AS OBJECTIVES FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN THE COMING MONTHS. IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE QUEEN'S SPEECH NOTED THE UK'S COMMITMENT TO WORK WITHIN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND THE EURO-

PEAN COMMUNITY, AND A DESIRE TO CONTINUE THE PURSUIT OF DETENTE, DISARMAMENT AND THE CURTAILMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. SUPPORT FOR PEACEMAKING EFFORTS IN RHODESIA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS WAS ALSO EMPHASIZED. END SUMMARY

- 1. AS EXPECTED, THE QUEEN'S SPEECH AGAIN EMPHASIZED THE COMMITMENT TO ESTABLISH DIRECTLY ELECTED ASSEMBLIES FOR SCOTLAND AND WALES. THESE BILLS AND THE OTHER MAJOR CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE, DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY, ARE EXPECTED TO DOMINATE THE NEW PARLIAMENT.
- 2. ON THE SUBJECT OF NORTHERN IRELAND, THE QUEEN'S SPEECH REAFFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVE TO ESTABLISH A DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT IN ULSTER ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES, THOUGH IT IS PROBLEMATICAL WHETHER IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THIS SESSION OF PARLIAMENT. THE SPEECH ALSO EMPHASIZED HMG'S COOPERATION WITH THE IRISH REPUBLIC IN SECURITY MATTERS, AND ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO END TERRORIST ACTIVITY IN ULSTER.
- 3. ON ECONOMIC ISSUES THE QUEEN'S SPEECH CALLED ATTENTION TO THE RECENT STRENGTHENING OF BRITAIN'S FINANCIAL POSITION AND STATED THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE CALLAGHAN GOVERNMENT IN THE ECONOMIC SECTOR TO BE A RETURN TO FULL EMPLOYMENT, SUSTAINED GROWTH AND REDUCTION IN LEVELS OF INFLATION. NO MAJOR LEGISLATION IS EXPECTED IN THESE UNCLASSIFIED

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AREAS. IN THIS REGARD THE REVENUES DERIVED FROM NORTH SEA OIL WILL BE DIRECTED TO "ACHIEVE A LASTING IMPROVEMENT IN OUR INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE." LEGISLATION TO ASSIST SMALL FIRMS AND TO ENCOURAGE PROFIT SHARING WAS ALSO PROMISED. ON INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY, THE SPEECH

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CALLED FOR "FURTHER CONSULTATIONS" AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ENCOURAGING INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY IN THE NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES.

4. THE QUEEN'S SPEECH REAFFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES IN THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DEFENSE FIELDS AND EMPHASIZED ITS CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO NATO, THE EC, THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE UN. A COMMITMENT TO THE OBJECTIVES OF DETENTE, DISARMAMENT AND THE CURTAILMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WAS ALSO EMPHASIZED. RELATING TO THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, THE SPEECH CALLED FOR "A FAIRER DISTRIBUTION WITHIN AN EXPANDING WORLD ECONOMY UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE WORLD'S WEALTH BETWEEN RICH AND POOR NATIONS."

- 5. THE SPEECH REAFFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA AND FORE-CAST LEGISLATION IN THE NEW SESSION TO GRANT RHODESIAN INDEPENDENCE ON THE BASIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER. LIKEWISE PEACEMAKING EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS WERE HIGHLIGHTED.
- 6. WE WILL REPORT SEPARATELY ON THE PARLIAMENTARY OUTLOOK FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS.

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Subject: QUEEN'S SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT NOV. 3 SUMMARY: THE QUEEN'S SPEECH ON THE OPENING OF PARLIA- MENT CONTAINED

FEW SURPRISES AS A STATEMENT OF THE TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UK

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